(ii) State Government has deployed protection staff in the area visited by the turtles to ensure that they are not disturbed.

(iii) The Coast Guard has been maintaining a special vigil in the area to ensure that no poaching of sea turtles takes place.

(iv) Fishing within 5 Kms. of the sea-shore and shallow waters has been restricted by the State Government during the period of mass nesting of the sea turtles.

(v) Central assistance has been made available to the State Government of Orissa for the development of the Bhitarkonika Sanctuary and for the captive breeding of sea turtles.

Exploration of Atomic Minerals in Sea-bed in Orissa

3. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any atomic minerals have been found in sea-bed in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether any exploration have been conducted; and

(c) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Detailed investigations were carried out over an area of 69 sq. kms. during 1988-89, and 1062 sq. kms. during January, 1990 off Gopalpur Coast, Orissa, in collaboration with Marine Geology Wing of the Geological survey of India, in near-shore areas. It has been found that the near-shore sandy sediments, at depths of 11 m to 22.5 m isobaths between Gopalpur and Chattarpur, Orissa, contain heavy minerals like Ilmenite, Sillimanite Carnet, Zircon, Rutile, Monazite, Epidote etc. A few sand bodies have been identified with total heavy mineral content varying from 3.5—14 per cet by weight as indicated by the analysis of the samples.

Education of women in rural and Adivasi areas

4. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out any new plan for the education of women in the rural and adivasi areas;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the details of directives issued to State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education lays special emphasis on removal of disparities in acc ess to educational opportunities suffered by women. Some of the recent strategies initiated to promote women's education throughout the country, with emphasis on women in rural and tribal areas, include the following:—

(i) *Mahila Samakhya*: The basic thrust of this programme is to create a mechanism whereby women are given an oppor-

tunity to plan and monitor their own education and reach out to a new body of knowledge. It aims at involving women in the process of education planning at the village level and providing educational inputs like, non-formal education centres for girls, both at the primary and upper-primary levels, training of village school teachers and production of educational material. This project has been launched in 10 districts of Gujarat, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh.

(ii) *Non-Formal Educations*: Ninety per cent assistance is released for running of Non-Formal Education centres for girls in the 10 educationally backward States.

(iii) *Adult Education*: Specific steps taken/being taken to enlarge coverage of women in adult education programme include:—

—Mobilisation of women adult learners in large numbers for ensuring enrolment at least 50 per cent women in adult education centres;

—appointment of large number of adult education functionaries such as Instructors, Preraks of Jana Shikshan Nilayams (JSNs) even by relaxing the minimum qualifications;

—making arrangements for Continuing Education of such Instructors;

—substantial women's participation under the Mass Programme of Functional Literacy;

—involvement of large number of voluntary agencies especially those working for women;

—more attention by Shramik vidyapeeths to women workers; ers;

—special orientation and training of women Instructors as effective agents of promoting women's equality and empowerment;

—designing an adult education programme for women which will be linked with imparting new skills, upgradation of their existing skills and new income generating activities;

—creation and provision of opportunities for retention of literacy skills and application of this learning for improving their living conditions;

—involvement of Central and State Social Welfare Boards with adult education programmes; and

—production of films on female literacy and empowerment and then telecast through Doordarshan.

The State Government have been advised to take action accordingly.

Adult Education Programme and National Literacy Mission

5. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what amount was allocated for the adult education programme during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) what amount has been spent for adult education programme in Gujarat so far;

(c) the number of persons covered under the programme during the period;

(d) what target has been fixed under the national literacy mission for the Eighth Five Year Plan: and

(e) what amount is likely to be allocated for the purpose for Gujarat, Orissa and Tamil Nadu and the country as a whole?